



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR
September 28, 2021

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
 From: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager
 Submitted by: Abraham Roman, Interim Chief, Fire Department
 Subject: Grant Application: Funding from FEMA's Assistance to Firefighters Grant to Support a Regional Fire Service Leadership Development Academy

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to apply for and accept a grant, and any amendments, from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program in the amount of \$168,272.73 to fund a Regional Fire Service Leadership Development Academy (LDA), and to accept grant funds and execute resulting grant agreements.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

Total cost for the LDA is \$185,100. The grant award would be for \$168,272.73, or 90% of the total cost. The City will receive the required 10% matching funds from the Alameda County Fire Chiefs Training Officers Association in the amount of \$16,827.27. The match for this grant will be provided from a designated fund (to be determined).

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The Berkeley Fire Department (BFD) is taking the lead role in applying for a grant to fund a regional LDA on behalf of eight fire departments in Alameda County to establish a leadership development program for aspiring and promoting company and chief officers.

In support of one of the City's Strategic Plan Goals to create a resilient, safe, connected, and prepared city", the objectives for this project are: to coordinate the leadership and management training needs of fire service leaders from departments within Alameda County, deliver curriculum aligned with and evaluated using National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards, and to design and implement a sustainable program that will continue over the years.

The grant must be accepted by October 3, 2021 or the funds will be lost.

BACKGROUND

In performing a risk analysis for this project, it was determined that company and chief officers in all eight fire departments that respond to the 1.7 million residents of Alameda County must be well prepared in order to mount a competent response. As field supervisors they are primarily responsible and dictate to what degree of efficiency and professionalism their fire companies respond and mitigate risk. The LDA will help ensure that company and chief officers in the County have the knowledge and skills necessary to make sound emergency and non-emergency decisions that uphold the protection of life, property and the environment.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Providing fire service leaders with on-going training and education provides them the knowledge, skills and abilities to move quickly while mitigating emergency incidents; thereby causing less impact to the environment.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The AFG Grant is a welcomed funding opportunity given the City's fiscal constraints. Allowing these grant applications, agreements, and receipt of the associated funding will help to improve the fire and emergency medical services response within Alameda County.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

None.

CONTACT PERSON

Abraham Roman, Interim Fire Chief, Fire, 510-981-3473

Attachments:

1: Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

GRANT APPLICATION: FUNDING FROM BAY AREA URBAN AREAS SECURITY INITIATIVE (UASI) TO SUPPORT EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRAINING EQUIPMENT PURCHASE

WHEREAS, fire service company and chief officers are primarily responsible on emergency scenes and often dictate to what degree of efficiency and professionalism their fire companies respond and mitigate risk; and

WHEREAS, the Leadership Development Academy (LDA) will help ensure that company and chief officers in the County have the knowledge and skills necessary to make sound emergency and non-emergency decisions that uphold the protection of life, property and the environment; and

WHEREAS, the Berkeley Fire Department (BFD) has taken the lead role in applying for the Assistance Firefighter's Grant (AFG) on behalf of all fire departments in Alameda County; and

WHEREAS, BFD has received an award offer from the AFG program; and

WHEREAS, the grant provides an opportunity to support the City's Strategic Plan goal to create a resilient, safe, connected and prepared city by creating and developing leadership and management trainings that will endure.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager or her designee is authorized to apply for and accept a grant, and any amendments, from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program in the amount of \$168,272.73 to fund a Regional Fire Service Leadership Development Academy (LDA), and to accept grant funds and execute resulting grant agreements.

